

THE
SPEECH
OF
S^r Edw: Turnor K^t

Speaker of the Honourable House of
COMMONS,

To the Kings most Excellent Majesty,
and both Houses of Parliament,

AT THEIR

Prorogation,

The second of *March*, 1664.



LONDON:

Printed by *John Bill* and *Christopher Barker*, Printers to the
Kings most Excellent Majesty, 1664.

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St. Edwards

COMMONS

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Speaker of the Honourable House of

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*To the Kings most Excellent Majesty, and
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AT THEIR

Prorogation.

May it please Your most Excellent Majesty,



He Knights, Citizens, and
Burgesses of the Com-
mons House of Parlia-
ment, having in the be-
ginning of this Session applied them-
selves

*which will have to be
done*

selves to the aiding Your Majesty in Your Naval Preparations, have of late considered of some Bills, that may be most grateful to the People, either in redressing things that are grievous to them, or in advancing their Trade and Commerce, which are the soul and life of the Nation.

Evil manners produce good Laws, but the best Laws in time may grow obsolete; and such is the wicked nature of Man, that when he cannot by force break through a Law, he will by fraud and tricks endeavour to evade it.

I may with great truth affirm, the Common Law of *England* is the best Municipal Law in the World; and yet if the Legislative power were not ready to countermine the Works, and make up the Breaches that are daily made upon it, the sons of *Zeruiab* would be too strong for us.

We have now presented Your Majesty with several Bills, for the Regulation of the Law, which will serve to
prune

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prune some exuberant branches, and to pull away the Ivie that robb'd this Tree of her just nourishment: And if Your Majesty now be pleased graciously to shine upon her, she will yield her fruit in great abundance, to the content of Your Majesty, and all Your people.

Cosmographers do agree, that this Island is incomparably furnished with pleasant Rivers, like Veins in the natural Body, which convey the Blood into all the parts, whereby the whole is nourished, and made useful: but the Poet tells us, he acts his part best, *Qui miscuit utile dulci*: Therefore we have prepared some Bills for making small Rivers Navigable: A thing that in other Countreys hath been more experienced, and hath been found very advantagious; it easeth the people of the great Charge of Land-Carriages, preserves the Highways, which are daily worn out with Waggon, carrying excessive Burthens; it breeds up a Nursery of Watermen, which, upon occasion, will prove good Sea-men, and with much facility main-

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tains Intercourse and Communion between Cities and Countries.

We have been much affected with the crys and wants of the Poor, this hard season, especially those about this Town, who are ready to starve for want of Fuel, the price of Coals being so unreasonably enhanced by the extorting Engrossers; VVe have therefore for their present and future ease, prepared a Bill, authorizing the Lord Mayor and the Court of Aldermen in the City of London; and Three Justices of Peace in the Countrey, whereof one to be of the *Quorum*, from time to time to set the Prices of Coals; having regard to the Price paid to the Importer, and other emergent Charges.

- And now Great *SIR*, having finished our present Counsels, we hope Your Majesty will give us leave to return for a time into our Countreys, where, in our severall Spheres, we shall be ready to serve You with our Persons and our Purses, and also with our Prayers

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Prayers to the Great God of Hosts, that
he will be pleased to strengthen Your
Hands in the day of Battell, and make
Your Majesty victorious over all Your
Enemies both at home and abroad.

FINIS.

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 Prayers to the Great God of Hosts, that
 he will be pleased to strengthen Your
 Arms in the day of Battell, and make
 Your Mighty victories over all Your
 Enemies both at home and abroad.

LONDON,
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 Printers to the Kings most Excellent
 Majesty, 1664.

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